GYIXP – Guyana's first Internet Exchange Point – launched on May 30, 2025

Prime Minister of Guyana, Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Phillips, launching GYIXP

Members of the team who worked on the establishment of GYIXP

For the first time in history, Guyana has launched its own Internet Exchange Point (IXP), a major step toward digital independence. Known as GYIXP, this initiative enables local Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to interconnect within the country, improving connectivity and reducing reliance on international routing. This networking facility allows local ISPs to connect directly, facilitating access to local online content without the need to route traffic internationally. At the launch event, Prime Minister Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Phillips emphasized that the GYIXP will enhance the stability and independence of Guyana's internet infrastructure. "…if you were making a call across one network to another network, that call had to be routed to Miami. For example, if you're making a call from One Communication to a phone on Digicel or E-Net, it has to be routed over the internet: to Miami and then back to Guyana. But now, the routing is done inside Guyana.". He mentioned that his office has prioritized the development of digital skills, partnering with international agencies and businesses to ensure that Guyanese are equipped to utilize and benefit from these ICT initiatives.

"We now have more than 60 online government services, and our ICT service sector continues to grow, with new businesses, such as V-Charge Services Guyana, being established almost daily. Today marks another key milestone in our nation's digital transformation trajectory." He added that this is a momentous occasion, noting that while more than 1,500 IXPs are active globally, fewer than 120 are located in Latin America and the Caribbean. Above all, he said, it will enhance Guyana's digital independence. "The establishment of GYIXP will also increase our digital independence, which is particularly appropriate given that we have just celebrated Guyana's 59th Independence Anniversary. We will no longer be solely reliant on expensive international links during our day-to-day operations. We will also have the ability to preserve access to local services and businesses in the event of a break in the submarine cables servicing Guyana.

Finally, on the international stage, the launch of Guyana's first Internet Exchange Point (IXP) reinforces our commitment to honoring our regional and international obligations. This IXP directly aligns not only with Guyana's, but also CARICOM's digital agenda."

He also referenced the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly the goal to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation as the foundation of successful and prosperous societies. “The years ahead promise to be just as productive and transformative. We will modernize education by embedding STEM, AI, and digital skills in classrooms, increasing scholarships, and growing a digital Guyana.”
In detailing the benefits of this development, the Prime Minister highlighted how it will contribute to the education sector.

“Ninety percent of our nursery, primary, secondary, tertiary, and technical vocational education institutions have internet access, with the remainder to be connected definitely before the 4th of September. I think the guys are telling me year-end, but they have to connect it before the 4th of September. ICT services and connectivity are also being provided to over 370 government institutions—including hospitals, health centres, police stations, and fire stations.”

Guyana’s first Internet Exchange Point members include E Networks, One Communication Guyana, and the National Data Management Authority (NDMA).

A management committee will govern the GYIXP and will be responsible for setting up strategies, overseeing administration, and protecting the interests of the peers, hosts, and members of the IXP. This is a non-profit undertaking years in the making, with the Office of the Prime Minister working tirelessly to make it a reality. The University of Guyana has provided the necessary accommodations, and dedicated bandwidth is being provided free of charge by the NDMA. This is a significant accomplishment made possible by the Office of the Prime Minister, the University of Guyana, the NDMA, E Networks, and One Communications.
This IXP has the potential to transform Guyana’s digital landscape by promoting meaningful connectivity and increasing the nation’s digital independence and resilience.